

As a former "independent" voter who believes in non-partisan news and free network programming, I would like to request that the Sinclair Broadcast Group and affiliated stations NOT air the documentary "Stolen Honor". The film, Stolen Honor: Wounds That Never Heal, features former POWs accusing Senator John Kerry, an honored and decorated Navy veteran turned war protester, of worsening their ordeal by prolonging the war. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. I therefore believe that it is unlawful and unfair to air partisan propaganda: especially in the final 2 weeks of a Presidential election campaign.

Sinclair's plan to air the film raises questions about whether Sinclair is running afoul of federal regulations "requiring broadcasters to provide equal time to major candidates in an election campaign". Provisions of the McCain-Feingold law would also appear to be at issue. The reported effort by Sinclair executives to instruct station managers to classify the film as "news", thus skirting these political broadcasting regulations, is a charade given its blatant anti-Kerry slant.

Sinclair's top executives, including members of the controlling Smith family, have been strong financial supporters of Bush's campaign. The company made news in April when it ordered seven of its ABC-affiliated stations not to air a "Nightline" segment that featured a reading of the names of U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq; a Sinclair executive called that broadcast "contrary to the public interest." Was this a "non-partisan decision"? Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of mainstream American media corruption.

I will gladly boycott any of Sinclair's advertisers and affiliated organizations if the documentary "Stolen Honor" is aired. I hope that in light of this information, your media outlet will reconsider the decision to air "Stolen Honor".

Thank you for your sincere consideration.